

"A Little Child Shall Lead Them"

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VOL. XV

SEPTEMBER, 1920

No. 1

Child-Welfare Magazine

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State News: Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Vermont, Wisconsin, Washington.

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IMPORTANT NOTICES

News items from the States must be in the hands of the editorial board by the **FIRST OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH** to ensure their appearance in the next magazine. The editorial board earnestly asks attention to the necessity of complying with this rule.

The magazine invites wider correspondence with local circles and associations. Send us reports of what you are doing. It will be helpful to others.

The necessity for brevity will be realized, as space is limited and every month more states send news. News is **WORK DONE, OR NEW WORK PLANNED**. Communications must be written with ink or typewritten.

The **CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE** offers to every **NEW** circle of fifty members one year's subscription free provided that with the application for the magazine is enclosed a receipt from state treasurer showing that dues of ten cents per capita have been paid, and second a list of officers and members with their addresses.

This offer is made to aid new circles with their program and to give them the opportunity to become acquainted with the great organized parenthood of America.

Subscribers to **CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE** should notify the publishers before the 15th of the current month if the magazine is not received. Back numbers cannot be furnished unless failure to receive the magazine is immediately noted.

Material for Use of Parent-Teacher Organizations

Child-Welfare Magazine. Price \$1.00 a year. It has help for every mother, every father, all who are interested in children. It keeps its readers in touch with world work for childhood. It numbers among its contributors those who stand at the forefront in child nurture. Send subscriptions to **CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE**, P. O. Box 4022 W. Philadelphia, Pa.

Year-Book, 1919-20, containing general information concerning the Congress \$0.25.

How to Organize Parents' Associations and Mothers' Circles. Single copies, two 2-cent stamps; 1,000 copies \$35.00.

Parents' Duty to Children Concerning Sex \$0.10.

First National Congress of Mothers, 1897, 285 pages. Valuable to every mother. Every officer of the congress should read it, as it gives the basic principles on which the congress is founded \$0.50-

Ninth National Congress of Mothers. The Child in Home, School and State, 271 pages \$0.50.

First International Congress on Child Welfare, 1908 \$1.00.

Third International Congress on Child Welfare, 1914 \$2.00.

List of Loan Papers Sent Free

Child Nurture. Valuable typewritten papers on over a hundred subjects will be loaned to individuals or mothers' and parents' associations. They form the best material for a season's program, because they have been prepared by specialists. Price, 20 cents for one paper, which may be kept three weeks. For \$2.00, twelve papers may be selected and kept for one year.

All orders for the above publications should be sent to the National Congress of Mothers, and Parent-Teacher Associations, 1314 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington, D. C.

CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE

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Vol. XV.

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Editor's Desk.

Fifteenth Year of Magazine

CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE begins its fifteenth year with the September issue of the magazine.

Looking over the index of articles published during the year one is impressed with the fact that the subjects and the authors are of the best. Many of them have furnished programs for parent-teacher associations. Many have helped mothers with their problems.

We hope during the coming year to make the magazine more helpful than ever.

Everything which concerns the welfare of parents and children whether in this or other countries should be of interest to our readers.

We welcome articles from those who have done things that would be suggestive to others. We ask correspondence and suggestions of wider service to our subscribers.

A fuller history of the magazine will be given in October issue.

Suffrage for Women, an Epoch in the World's History

November 18, 1920, will ever be a memorable day in the history of the United States. Tennessee has the honor of being the thirty-sixth state to ratify the suffrage amendment to the constitution. Thus is given to every woman in the United States an equal share and an equal responsibility in making the laws and conditions under which we live.

At no time could suffrage have been given when more women have had their thoughts directed to public welfare than now.

The war has turned women's attention to serious things of which before they had little knowledge. The war has brought women together as nothing else ever did. No one who lived through the war can ever forget, or ever be satisfied with things that do not count.

Women worked with their brothers, their husbands, and their friends in a common cause. They will continue to do so. The world will be better for the light which woman's thought will give on the questions which are of interest to her. These are the questions of human welfare.

Three generations of women have worked for enfranchisement of women. No one can fail to admire their devotion. The names of the leaders will ever shine among those who gave their lives for faith in a great cause.

There is still a vast work to be done in education of women as to our system of government, as to methods of election, as to fields where their influence is most needed.

It is not love of office but love of service which animates most women in public life.

It is for service that suffrage must be used. What can 28 million do to make a greater nation? What can they not do by consecration to great ideals, yet with their feet on the ground—ascending step by step?

U. S. Public Health Service

The United States Public Health Service is the agency established by the Federal Government for the protection of health of all the people. Few citizens realize the guardianship constantly given by this department—or the information it has of conditions in all parts of the country.

During the war the scope of the work was greatly widened.

State Boards of Health and county and local boards are part of the government agencies in every community.

In 1911 the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations began a campaign to have Child Hygiene Departments in every State Board and every local Board of Health. Thirty states now have child hygiene

departments. In many cases a woman physician is the chief.

The Bureau of Education when it established a Home Education Division turned to the United States Public Health Service for the preparation of bulletins relating to health. Naturally such bulletins to be valuable must be prepared by specialists on child care. These were furnished without limit and widely distributed through coöperation of National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.

There are two bills in which all who are working for mother welfare and child welfare are deeply interested. One is the Physical Education bill which would give right physical training in every school. The other is the Maternity and Infancy bill, which aims to ensure such care to mothers before and after child birth as will prevent the great mortality of mothers and babies.

The latter bill creates a separate board to administer the work. The U. S. Public Health Service believes it should be included in the work of boards of health—which already are established every where.

Resolution adopted at the last Conference of State and Territorial Health Officers with the Surgeon General of United States

"WHEREAS there has been introduced in Congress a bill (H.R. 10925, S. 3259, known as the Sheppard-Towner bill) making provision for promoting the care of maternity and infancy in the several states; and

"WHEREAS there has been created in this bill new Federal and State health agencies known as 'A Federal Board of Maternal and Infant Hygiene' and 'State Boards of Maternal and Infant Hygiene'; and

"WHEREAS the establishment of new or competing health organizations, Federal or State, weakens the efforts of the existing legally constituted health agencies: Therefore be it

"Resolved, That it is the sense of the Eighteenth Annual Conference of the State and Territorial Health Authorities with the United States Public Health Service that the objects of the Sheppard-Towner bill for the public protection of infant and maternal life be strongly indorsed; and be it further

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this conference that the Federal administration of this act should be under the supervision and control of the Public Health Service, and in States, of the State health authorities; and that the sections of said bill relating to administration be changed to accord with these suggestions; and be it further

"Resolved, That this resolution be laid before the Committee on Education and Labor of the

House and Senate by a special committee representing this conference."

It would seem better to avoid a duplication of boards dealing with health. There should be no difficulty in having women physicians and nurses appointed for this service if it is so desired. Many women are holding high places in health boards today, and in the United States Public Health Service their advice and assistance is sought. With the power women have as voters there will be great opportunity to strengthen, improve and widen the scope of service given through boards of health.

Every county should have a well-equipped maternity hospital where every woman could be assured of the best of care. Appropriation for it should be made out of county funds.

Why create new machinery for health work? Why not equip the established board to assume the new responsibility?

Plans of the National Institution for Moral Instruction

The scope of work of this Institution in which Mr. Milton Fairchild has been the leading spirit is to be widened and its directorate increased.

It will be the policy of the institution to hold to the research problems of character education, and to coöperate with established institutions for practical work in schools.

A small group of research leaders will concentrate their accumulated wisdom on the problems of character education of children. All the service which the institution will render will be non-commercial for the good of the children of the nation.

For further information address National Institution for Moral Instruction, Chevy Chase, Washington, D. C.

Vacation Bible Schools

During the summer while schools were closed many churches throughout the United States opened their buildings for Vacation Bible Schools. Every morning the children came for Bible reading, singing hymns, and some hand work. In large cities where thousands of children must remain at home or on the streets the influence of these schools has been remarkable. The unsolicited statement of a policeman is convincing evidence of their value. This policeman said that in the districts where these schools were held the children were orderly and there were few or no children brought into court. Beginning the day with the Bible, singing and good teaching had its effects on conduct. To cities which have not yet established Vacation Bible Schools, recommendation is made to have them when another summer comes.

Programs for Parent-Teacher Associations

Note.—Successful coöperation can only be attained through understanding of the resources of the Board of Education, its purposes and its limitations. Much criticism that is destructive may be avoided, by personal statements from the Board of Education as to their work.

This is equally necessary from the principal of the school and the superintendent of schools.

Every parent-teacher association will find it

PROGRAM ONE

Co-operation of Parents and Teachers for Welfare of Children

Address by Principal of school or Superintendent covering these points:

Opportunities for Study the School gives to Pupils.

Amount of Home Study Required.

Special Needs of School.

Standards of School.

Number of Children in Each Grade.

How Many Children under Each Teacher?

What Does the School Offer in Physical Training, Manual Training, Domestic Science? Recreational Opportunities.

Discussion.

Address by member of Board of Education covering these points:

Define Duties and Powers of Board of Education.

Method of Selection of Board.

Amount of Money Appropriated for Schools.

Apportionment of Money.

Number of Schools under Direction of Board.

Number of Teachers and their Salaries.

Condition of School Buildings—Water Supply, Sanitation, Ventilation and Lighting, Toilet Facilities, Heating, Cleaning, Regulation of Temperature, Protection against Fire, Fire Drills, Playgrounds, Play at Recess Supervised, Lunch Provided; if so, how?

In What Way can the Parent-Teacher Association Promote and Aid the Work of the Board of Education?

Discussion.

Singing: Father, Mother, Teacher Mine.

(Can be procured at National Office)

PROGRAM TWO

Home Preparation for the School Child

Discuss these questions:

Time children should go to bed.

How many hours sleep are required?

Is sleeping room supplied with fresh air, open windows and warm bed clothing?

advantageous each year to open the year's meetings by the programs given below.

Each year brings children and parents who have never attended before. Each year brings new conditions to be met by Boards of Education and educators.

Remembering that parents have eight times more educational work to do for the children than teachers, it surely will be mutually helpful to confer on the subject.

All concerned will benefit thereby.

Do you provide good bathing facilities and require daily use of them?

Is breakfast ready at an hour that gives time to eat it without haste?

Do you send your children to school with a loving goodbye, happy and full of good-will, in a frame of mind that will inspire them to do their best?

Do you instruct your children as to their attitude to others, concerning courtesy, thoughtfulness and a spirit of helpfulness to teachers and schoolmates?

Are you at home to greet them on their return, to learn of the day's events, to praise where possible, to kindly suggest other ways when mistakes have been made, to show your interest in all they do?

Do you see that they have opportunity for outdoor play before study hour?

Do you provide a place for home study where there is a good light, and quiet?

What other things parents can do to coöperate with teachers in the mutual duty and privilege of guiding the children and educating them.

Ask the teachers whether there is a difference in the ability and spirit of children thus prepared for the day's work?

Discussion.

Singing: Father, Mother, Teacher Mine.

PROGRAM THREE

Health of School Children

Address by Physical Director or Physician, Covering following Points:

Why Physical Inspection of Children is a Community Service.

Rules of School to Prevent Contagious Diseases.

How Parents can Coöperate in Prevention.

Nutrition Classes for Children below Standard Physically.

School Luncheons:

Prepared at Home—What to Give.

Served at School—Advantage to Children.

What State and Local Boards of Health Do for Children.

Explain Physical Education Bill before Congress.

How the War Revealed Poor Physical Conditions of Youth.

Why Parents should Promote Passage of the Bill.

What the Parent-Teacher Association Can Do to Promote Best Health Conditions in Home and School.

Discussion.

PROGRAM FOUR

Recreation

Conference of parents and teachers.

Assign one question or more to different persons in order to get variety of viewpoints.

Advantage of a community standard for children's entertainment.

What forms of amusement outside the home are

available? Playgrounds? Libraries? Rowing? Swimming? Camping? Moving pictures? Girl Scouts? Boy Scouts?

How many parents open their homes frequently for the entertainment of their children?

What forms of entertainment are provided?

Is there a glee club or orchestra in the school?

If not, could such clubs be organized?

For outdoor sport is there a tennis club?

Would it not be beneficial if all evening entertainments were limited to Friday or Saturday?

In order to ensure a good class of films a committee might be appointed to secure lists of good films and request the theaters to choose from them for Friday and Saturday.

Do you advocate having parents accompany their children and share their pleasures?

Why should careful attention be given to wholesome recreation for children?

Packet Programs

Compiled by Mrs. Orville T. Bright, Chicago, Chairman, Department Parent-Teacher Associations

SUBJECTS

Standards for Home and School.

Obedience and Punishment.

Amusement and Adventure.

What Work and Play do for Children.

Thrift.

The Relation of the Parent-Teacher Association to the Community.

Each State President has received a packet of the above from the national chairman with the suggestion that they be mimeographed and sent to local associations desiring them upon their

request, for postage only, which amounts to approximately 20 cents.

Of course the mimeographing is optional with the States and they may not be available in all States.

We have in the office a number of copies of THE CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE which are available as sample copies. State presidents, members of state boards, and local chairmen of CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE can receive a supply by writing to CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE, Box 4022, West Philadelphia, Pa.

Children's Book Week

Last year all the publishers combined, helped by the public libraries, the booksellers and schools, to celebrate Children's Book Week, which was so successful in creating enthusiasm for putting children's books in the home that they are planning a second children's book week this year, November 15-20. During this period there will appear in the newspapers and magazines a number of stories written by famous authors on children's books which have influenced them and given to a general discussion of juveniles. The librarians and school teachers who have seen the results of last year are heartily enthusiastic. We feel that one of the most important organizations that we can call on to help us is the National Mother's Congress.

It is suggested that parent-teacher associations

devote a meeting in the fall about the time of Children's Book Week to the discussion of children's books.

Last year Charles Scribner's Sons used a poster drawn by Jessie Willcox Smith. They offer to supply some of these wherever needed.

CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE in the November issue will publish an article on "What Shall Children Read?" which will be appropriate for programs. The author is Nell Hampton Dick.

"1000 Good Books for Children," prepared by Miss Alice M. Jordan, of Boston Public Library, who is National Chairman of Children's Books in National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, can be procured by sending a dime to the National Office in Washington, D. C.

Boys and Their Handling

BY WILL LEVINGTON COMFORT

This letter carries to you some cuttings from a mountain journal on Boys and their handling:

It takes a fine quality in a man to bring out the best in a collie dog. The training of the great sheep-dogs makes one stop and think; the more a man knows, the longer it will take before he moves on. It takes all a man has to bring out the best in a boy—any boy. The more to the man; the more thrilling the result.

You bring out from a dog or a horse or a boy or a woman, accordingly as you have brought out the values of yourself. You can go as far as you like with this. If this isn't true, nothing that I have to say is true. I think of an old Scot who took a second-choice pup and made a champion and a trophy-winner out of him—a dog that would tackle a tiger or freeze to death on order, and had room in his spacious heart to adore the man's little girl as well as the man himself. . . . I never thought much of those one-man dogs—trained to worship one chief and to give the fang and the glower to all others.

That old Scot made the great dog he did, because he had himself in hand whenever the dog was about. He knew what he wanted from that dog; he saw it from the first minute. He held it in mind every day and fed the ideal with his own thought-force. He was around the dog like a cloak of a cloud. His picture was big enough for the dog to expand in—in all directions. It never pinched and it never broke. It was patience to begin with. Yes, that was the base, but there was equity to it, and verity and fidelity. Yet that old Scot dared to lose! his temper with his own son.

. . . Across the stream is another fire and three boys are sitting before it, all writing. Just letters probably, though they write as they go—sometimes poems, sometimes papers on whatever. I look over their stuff from time to time. They are taught to turn out themselves in writing for the present—taught to find themselves in expression. They are not all to be writers, but all boys can unfold a part of themselves by this means—until they find their own work. Besides, in telling about it, they cinch what they learn and observe to their brain-cells—lots of beauty every day. Moreover they turn themselves out to others this way which ventilates their own faculties.

It is a great mistake for a boy to take ten summer weeks merely loose in his own body—mind shut down entirely and the Spirit away on foreign business. This sort of vacating puts on a husk and takes the light out of a lad's eye. Teachers complain that students are

hard to get going in the Fall; that they have to begin all over with them in fact. It is because of prolonged and pernicious neglect of the finer faculties. You wouldn't tie your arm up in a sling to rest it. . . . As a matter of fact fourteen hours a day is too long to play in. One can't play gracefully so long as that, nor get any fun out of it. On the contrary one gets stale and sour trying to play without work—gets out of order, even organically and all the little organs. He comes back wide-pored and glassy-eyed and loose-mouthed.

Not only do I not undertake to make writers of boys, but I do not undertake to make any one thing. This is effrontery in a teacher or parent. Deep in the child's heart are his own sealed orders—to be opened as he makes himself ready and worthy. He isn't really an individual until he begins to break these seals. This is hastened and made safe through living clean and giving plentiful expression to the best—which is only a trifle harder than the worst and wouldn't require much direction from the elders, except for the infinite and omnipresent retrograding influences everywhere in the world. Yet these are his tests, as they are ours. A boy must be a prince and have an intrinsic and unalterable drive from his own Spirit to come through fast and clean these days, without the occasional burn of inspiration from someone he loves and looks up to. The point is he cannot be really quickened and sustained by anyone else.

These same fellows have gathered for an hour three or four times a week at my study and I have told them how I see the big and subtle job of living down here. They understand that I learned much by doing things wrong; that I would save them from making the same mistakes I did, so they more quickly may set about making their own peculiar and inevitable mistakes. I have used many words, but I am using less and less of late. Teaching is a matter of vibration—the large part of it. You quicken those about you—and more swiftly you quicken the young—by making them believe in you, by being somewhat yourself, by being in charge of yourself, not acting, but Being.

Boys need their mother, but they need a man, too. Not to patronize nor teach them patriotic songs nor to tell them things that they will presently find to be half-truths; not to hide from them adult secret weaknesses and pettiness, for these are sure to come out; certainly not to make little soldiers or standardize them according to any cut and dried learning. Boys need men. Men who look at them eye to eye—not in patronage, but in comradeship; men who see the Essential Being back of the nine or twelve

or sixteen years which is merely the age of body and brain; men who can see the Essential Being back of the changing voice and the blurs of adolescence; truth behind the lad who steals a bit for a change or smokes. A real man can deal with these tentative things lightly because he remembers when he stole and smoke; at least remembers good men of the Now, who did those things once and many things worse, and have come up out of them.

It's effrontery for us who are middle-aged to set ourselves as authority or as anything ultimate. Most of us are here by a squeak. Most of us would have been in the discard long since if we hadn't a particularly stubborn bit of health. We need only look around, and call to mind where are the boys we played with. . . . The only thing that we have to work with in being a friend to boys is an experience in evils and an open enough Spirit to realize that we are not through with evils, any more than the boys are.

Boys don't mind the faults in a man. As a matter of fact they don't see the faults, unless the man tries to conceal them. They want to feel a man's strength. They want him to come forward when they are stuck. They appreciate being let alone until they are. They appreciate the man-thing everywhere, for they are potentially that—the thing that comes out in pinches, that stands up as having authority among men in cars and stages and all city traffic. Many times boys enjoy a man in the open or in his own home, and suddenly find him a simp and off-key, pitiful in contrast to other men in the midst of world movement.

Boys don't ask much, but they are stung when they come to an end in a grown-up. They are always silent then. Don't gamble too much that you are putting it over, because they don't speak. They are too hurt to speak. They appreciate the sumptuous thing about a man in which they can lose themselves. . . . The father or teacher with boys nowadays must remember that they are not to be as he is now. Life is much speedier that they are coming up into. They are timed and tested for an altogether different track than we knew. Times are more fascinating, more desperate. These are boys who are going not overseas only, but underseas; they'll cross all the continents and rivers, without touching land or water. They will never miss alcohol, but they'll play with poisons ten times more subtle and demoniac. They will pay with their own vitals, but the big ones will live through. They'll do at twenty what we are doing now, and except in a few cases they'll do it better. The big stories of all life are yet to be written.

Some who are children now will touch a bit of real teaching which will unfold them more in a minute than we learned in a semester; we who were exploited and standardized and who are

doing well anything now in spite of what we were taught, not because of it. There are real teachers in the public schools now; more, proportionately in the kindergarten work; real teachers in spite of normal training, not because of it. Moreover, real schools are being formed, schools where the boy is let into something that contains him, something that quickens him, something that introduces him to himself—something ageless, that opens his locks, unseals his orders, makes him inimitable and a man, indeed.

. . . I'm rather involved just now in this affair. Being a father is as fine an art as I can think of actively. It holds me. I can make more mistakes at it right now than anything else, and that's always the thing to stick at. It takes spirit; also a good nervous system, and we adults who brought bodies this far—certainly wore the bloom off our sympathies. It takes head and temper, unbreakable and fool-proof. It takes a man who, such as he is, manages himself, not only in the presence of his collie-dog, but with his own son, his woman and the world. I don't mean being a male parent to one's own children merely, but to those nearest at hand—to any and all children.

A man must know the boy point of view, by remembering his own of years ago. He wins by making the key of that and adding to it all that he has put on since. The man who has a working familiarity with horses, dogs and sports, with guns and naturalists; soldiers, packers and far countries, has a fine start with the fellows a generation or two behind, but this equipment must be kept well, taken out and polished often, for the things of our day moved tarnation slow. I crossed the Pacific and some parcels of Asia to see the wars of twenty years ago; and these fellows have seen more of the Great War in pictures than any correspondent saw at the front. They have watched the findings of a thousand cameras in the cores of action. . . . And that which we used to read about in the impoverished paper novels is screened to-day in a higher intensity of action than is ever reeled off in Nature.

The world is brought to these chaps—the great runners, the great fliers, the great fighters—in face and gesture and mannerism. . . . Still it is all but a keener vibration of the same Romance. These boys know that seeing the pictured world at best, is but the stories old Nokomis told. Hiawatha himself must go forth.

One must divine something of the drive behind the boy. At least, he must know that there is such a drive. . . . I saw a young chap watering a lawn in the evening, the still twilight time. His hands held the hose, but he was "out," as the gracious Blackwood would say. His eyes were rapt and starry, his face drawn a little and whitened—the whole dream

of the future like an afterglow around him. There was deep joy in the moment for me, but pathos, too. I saw the haggard man, years hence—a man made of scar-tissue, but coming through! This boy had the great spiritual drive behind him, but he is a tough little animal, too.

The two would fight it out in this body, but he would come through. Haggard of course, from carrying on, for the Drive never lets up. One becomes haggard from following the Gleam—but starry-eye!

Relief for Russian Children

BY PRINCESS CANTACUZENE

Granddaughter of Gen. U. S. Grant

The energy of most of the brilliant minds to-day is being turned to the problem of forging a chain of sympathy and friendship which shall bind the nations of the world together into a mighty bulwark of peace.

But no matter how valiant is the struggle toward this end, all efforts will meet with failure if Russia is neglected. Russia both because of geographic and economic reasons, is the mighty master link. Her far-flung boundaries connect two civilizations radically different and with few points of contact—the Oriental and the Occidental. So richly has she been blessed by nature that she is capable in normal times of providing food, clothing, and shelter for more than five times her population. Nearly everything the modern world requires for reconstruction and progress is obtainable in superabundance in Russia. Proof of the dependence of the rest of the world for its stability and progress upon Russia has recently been seen in the immense pressure brought to bear to force the Allied governments to recognize the Soviet Government. The motive behind this agitation is not that the Allies, by recognizing the Bolsheviks, should express sympathy with their cause, but because Europe finds it practically impossible to bind up the wounds of war without access to the treasures in Russia's fertile fields and rich mines.

Because of this very fact of Russia's important relation to the welfare and progress of the rest of the world, it is impossible to look forward to the dawn of universal peace and brotherhood while Russia is left with the curse of Bolshevism. This curse knows no equal even in the darkest pages of history for its horror and ruthless destruction of religion, education, and even the sacred family bonds. Those who persist in believing that Bolshevism is a beautiful dream of democracy come true, are either wilfully blind to facts or misinformed.

My husband and I stayed in Russia long enough to know that this millenium which was promised under the name of "Bolshevism" was nothing more than a brutal form of tyranny. Then we fled. My husband later joined the patriotic Russians who have been fighting

Bolshevism. Although deserted by the Allies, with little ammunition and almost no clothing (many of them fought through the winter with bare feet in the snow), these valiant men have met disaster and discouragement with indomitable courage and unshaken faith in their cause.

The political questions regarding Russia are for governments to decide. But the question of caring for the innumerable war orphans, the saving of innocent little ones from starvation, or death by exposure, the giving of food and shelter to destitute and helpless boys and girls, young mothers and old people, all this need not wait for the ponderous wheels.

In order that there should be no duplication of efforts in the sending of relief which would result in waste of energy, money or supplies, various Russian relief societies have been amalgamated under the name of the "American Central Committee for Russian Relief" with headquarters at the Buckingham Hotel, New York City. This committee coöperates with the Red Cross and the American Relief Administration European Children's Fund in distributing relief supplies where possible. In other regions, it has its own machinery of distribution so that every guarantee may be given that the relief goes safely to non-Bolshevist population and refugees. One hundred cents of every dollar contributed to the Committee goes to relief purposes, as our directors supplied the fund for administration. This appeal in behalf of non-Bolshevist Russia will not fall on unresponsive ears in America. My adopted people are the Russians, who are faithful to the Allies still, though tortured, driven from their homes and left destitute. By sending them food and clothing America is doing something besides an act of humanitarianism. These refugees are all men and women who, as educators, scientists, jurists, bankers, manufacturers and skilled workmen of all kinds, will be necessary when Bolshevism falls of its own weight. Russia will be sorely in need of these people for her reconstruction. By saving them from starvation and sickness now, it will be made possible for Russia to rise out of the quagmire of Bolshevism and disorganization, and build again.

Consistency

By SARAH G. SIMPSON

Consistency is one of the fundamental qualities of discipline, and from my own experience I have found it to be most important. It should always be accompanied by kindness. More mothers have trouble with their children because of their own inconsistency than of any other one reason.

Johnnie comes home from school and asks, "Mother, may I go over to Billy Baker's to play?" and Mother, knowing that Billy's influence is not good, refuses. Johnnie displays more or less temper, but Mother is firm, and Johnnie stays at home. A few days later, however, Johnnie makes the same request, and Mother, who is entertaining a caller, lets him go for a little while. This is a case of inconsistency, and, in order to save one scene, Mother is laying a good foundation for many more. The probability is that had she replied, "Mother has told you before," the matter would have ended there, or even if he had cried a little and "made a scene," the son would have had a valuable lesson and learned that Mother meant what she said. His love for the moment might have been shaken, but eventually Johnnie would have been a happier boy and his love and respect for his mother would have been greater.

The value of consistency cannot be overestimated. The tiniest baby should be dealt with kindly, but firmly. A mother can develop the teasing habit in her child while he is still in his cradle if she lacks this quality of consistency. At one time when her baby cries she does not pick him up for she says, "It is not good for him and he is forming bad habits." But the next day if she is nervous and unwilling to endure his

noise, she yields "just for once." The result is that she gives in to her child more or less through his later childhood.

Again, with an older child, the mother will partially concede, a sort of compromise, and the child is keen enough to know that he has gained his point and each time he will seek to gain a little more, until the mother realizes when it is too late, that her problem is great and her word really has very little weight.

My advice is: be considerate in your requirements of a child, and then be consistent in seeing that these requirements are carried out. Irritable, nagging mothers and unattractive, nervous children would be almost unknown if the former could realize the importance of kindness and consistency. Lack of sympathy and strained relations between parents and their older children often spring from habitual inconsistency.

Perhaps the most important thing of all is this. When you make a legitimate request you must know within yourself that you expect it to be carried out. Then if you are disobeyed you must calmly, but definitely and emphatically, see to it that your request is complied with. This method cannot be practiced today and neglected tomorrow, but must be consistently followed.

The future happiness, character and well-being of your little one depends entirely upon firm, wise and consistent guidance. It is these fundamental qualities of mother-discipline that train the strong-willed little sons and daughters into splendid men and women.

The Tongue of the Slanderer

The character assassin, the tongue of the slanderer, is the greatest evil that afflicts humanity. I heard this amply illustrated once when I heard there existed a good priest, a member of the Catholic Church, and many sinners went to him to be given pardon and absolution for their sins. One came in and admitted that he had stolen, and he forgave him by telling him to restore to the man from whom he had stolen the amount he had stolen. Another confessed he had committed burglary, another to burning a house, and he required of them, if possible, to make all restitution. Finally a man came in and said, "Holy Father, I have slandered my fellow man and I have slandered a woman." The holy father said, "There is a duck out in the yard. Take that duck and kill it. Go down this road; walk slowly and pick it as you go. Come back by the

time you have picked off every feather and all down from that duck." The penitent went and did as he was told. He came back, and said, "Father, I have complied with your request." The father said, "Now travel the same road you traveled, gather together every feather, gather together every particle of down, put them in this sack, and bring them back to me." The penitent hung his head, scratched it, and said, "Father, that is impossible. The high wind has blown the feathers and the down to the uttermost corners of the earth." The father said, "Just so, it is impossible for you to render restitution for the crime of slander you have committed. Every sin under the Catholic faith is forgivable, but it is the one sin that is beyond the scope of restitution. It is God's worst enemy and the devil's best friend."—*Selected.*

PROGRAM FOR PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

The Programs given from month to month require the service of three members of the association for each meeting. They develop home talent, at the same time providing papers of educational value in child-nurture. They ensure a high standard for the season's meetings, and awaken wider interest in child-welfare as the members learn of the movement throughout the world.

FIRST TOPIC—Boys and their handling—How the Parent-Teacher Association is Helping the Small Town Problem.

SECOND TOPIC—(To be assigned to another member).

What Parent-Teacher Associations in other States are Doing.

THIRD TOPIC—(To be assigned to third member).

Current Events on Child-Welfare from Child-Welfare Notes and elsewhere.

Convention of State Branches

PENNSYLVANIA—Williamsport, November 11, 12, 13.

MASSACHUSETTS—Boston, October 21, 22, 23.

NEW JERSEY—November 12, 13.

TEXAS—November 8, 9, 10.

CONVENTION OF STATE BRANCHES

Annual Reports of Presidents of State Branches

MASSACHUSETTS

The severe winter made it impossible for many local associations to during January, February and March. We have tried to make up by putting all the energy we could into the work of the other months of the year.

While we have not made leaps and bounds in the number of members we have endeavored to lay foundation that we will increase membership next year.

The opening of Parent-Teacher Association headquarters in Boston in charge of a financial secretary and under the efficient leadership of our Ways and Means Chairman, Mrs. E. C. Mason, has been an important step. Literature and latest books on education and child training will be kept for reference and members will be welcome at all times. Boston is the center of all state-wide movements for education and child-welfare, so we feel sure that this is a step forward.

The State convention held at Pittsfield in October was attended by delegates from various parts of the state. In connection with the convention and in cooperation with the State Board of Health we held a Health Exhibit. Charts dealing with the various phases of health were shown and literature distributed. The keynote of the convention was: Good health for every child; civic education and loyalty of every

child to home, school, community and nation; teaching of thrift and economic responsibility to every child.

We are exceedingly fortunate in having as chairmen of our committees the following experts: Miss Laura Comstock, the director of the county demonstrators, Massachusetts Agricultural College; Mrs. W. E. Tiltson, of the National Tuberculosis Association, as legislation chairman, Mrs. Trueworthy White, of the Woman Suffrage Association, as our chairman on citizenship, author of a "Primer of Citizenship."

Nine meetings of the board of managers have been held and two executive committee meetings.

Two district conferences have been held, one at Cohasset under the councillor, Mrs. William McGraw, and the other at Haverhill under the leadership of Mrs. Lewis R. Hovey.

The cooperation of other large state organizations has been remarkable. Through this cooperation we have been able to secure several new valuable chairmen of departments, experts in their various lines.

In March an invitation was received to send a representative to an all-day conference on the extension of school luncheons throughout the state. Sixty-five towns and cities were represented and thirty-five organizations expressed their interest and desire to help.

Mrs. Edward C. Mason and Miss Laura Comstock attended, the latter being our Home Economics chairman conducted one of the Round Tables on "How the Field is being Covered." It was voted that a committee of five be appointed to consider ways of furthering the extension of school luncheons. Mrs. Edward C. Mason and Miss Laura Comstock are members of this committee.

In July we conducted classes for parents in connection with the Northfield Summer School of Religious Education. This year we are to sponsor the opening of a school for parents offering the following courses: Psychology of Adolescence, The Vocation of Parenthood, The Ideal Home, Psychology of Childhood, Story Telling. This is the first summer school for parents ever held in Massachusetts. The courses are planned with the definite aim of helping parents in the home training of their children.

One of the most important movements is the formation of the New England Council of Parent-Teacher Associations. It brings all the New England states into close touch with what each one is doing. It helps to stimulate thought and to give a broader vision of the possibilities of the work. Massachusetts has sent delegates to all meetings of the Council and has gained a great deal by it.

DEPARTMENT WORK

Legislative.—Our most far-reaching work has been supporting the following three legislative bills: The Physical Training Bill, the Motion Picture Censorship bill and the Maternity Benefits bill. The Physical training bill has been lost, but plans are being made to introduce the bill again next year. The other two bills are still before the House and Senate and so far they have received the favorable consideration of the legislators.

Child Hygiene.—In the child hygiene department our chairman has emphasized, as always, the need of the active interest of local chairmen in all matters relating to the health of children.

One meeting at least has been devoted by every association to child hygiene problems. Experts have given lectures, demonstrations and special advice to parents and teachers. Literature has been sent to many associations. Three leaflets are used which bear our own name. These have proven good advertising for our organization with the State Board of Health and with local boards and health workers. The Children's Bureau and the State Board of Health have been most generous in response to calls for literature for free distribution.

In Haverhill infant welfare work has been organized through the efforts of a Parent-Teacher Association enthusiasts, led by Mrs. Lewis R. Hovey. The creation of a child-welfare department in the city government at Holyoke

under the management of a commission of six, three men and three women. Mrs. Summer H. Whitten is chairman of this city department. We take some credit for this advance step in local governmental departments, since the child-welfare work in Holyoke has been an outgrowth of work done by the child-welfare work in Holyoke has been an outgrowth of work done by the Mothers Club and Parent-Teacher Associations in that city during the past ten years.

Prominent among the towns active in health work are Gloucester, Greenfield, Holyoke, Haverhill, Worcester and Wollaston.

Councillor.—We have divided the state into thirty districts. Over each district is appointed a councillor who is chosen by the state board and who works under the direction and in close coöperation with the chairman of the councillor department who is called the chief councillor. She is a member of the state board. The councillors hold meetings every three months with the chief councillor presiding. She is the link between the councillors and the state board. Every three months the councillor sends out a questionnaire to the local associations and thus keeps the central office and the board in close touch with what is being done by the local clubs and associations all over the state.

Many of our associations observed Child-Welfare day with an appropriate program and a gift of \$122.55 has been sent to the National Congress.

We have issued monthly a State bulletin with suggestions and message from the president, and department chairmen.

A new yearbook was published containing outlines of work under the heads of the various departments and committees, also our revised constitution, a list of the local associations in membership with the names and addresses of their officers, of contributing, associate, sustaining and life members. A copy of the Year book is sent to the president and secretary of each local association and to all state and national officers and state presidents.

Ways and Means.—In February, 1919, our chairman, Mrs. E. C. Mason, with the sanction of the board of managers outlined a plan to increase our treasury as the amount of money received from local dues was not large enough for us to conduct state work. Each local association was asked to pay into the state treasury one fourth as many dollars as there were members. Prizes were offered by our President. The first prize was a plaster cast of Guido Reni's Aurora to the association which should exceed its quota by the largest amount. A second prize of a picture was to be awarded to the first association to send in its quota. A year was the time given to the associations in which to send in their quotas. Fifteen associations paid in their quota and four of these exceeded

their quotas. Thirteen more association have made contributions. We also asked for contributing and life memberships. In this way we have raised \$834.85 to aid in extending state work. This is not enough however.

The passage of the state minimum salary bill of \$650 for teachers and the \$4,000,000 school fund has received our active support. Both of these measures passed the legislature last year. This year the increase of salaries has been agitated in the respective towns and cities. Leicester got a \$200 increase and Wakefield an increase of \$400 for their teachers.

Motion Pictures.—In Worcester, Leominster and Lynn Parent-Teacher Associations are represented on the Board of Motion Picture Review, which censors all the films shown in these cities. This is not, however, entirely satisfactory; therefore we are glad to work for the State bill for Censoring of Motion Pictures.

The following work has been done by local associations:

- Held Community Xmas Trees and Community Sing.
- Health days or health weeks in coöperation with the State Board of Health, having health exhibits and lectures on food, sanitation, the control of tuberculosis, infant care, etc.
- Have furnished scales and health charts so that the children could be weighed and measured regularly and a complete record kept to show progress.
- Have established emergency funds for such things as buying rubbers, mittens, clothing, medicine, etc., for needy children.
- Have conducted canning clubs, school gardens, classes in dressmaking and millinery, courses in home efficiency and social hygiene and girls health leagues.
- Have given pianos, victrolas, victrola records, pictures to beautify the school buildings and bird charts to aid in the nature study work.
- Have established school lunches serving either hot cocoa or soup or perhaps some other hot dish to the pupils at noon or in the middle of the morning session. Have also in many schools serve the pint of milk at recess.
- Have provided playgrounds and equipped same.
- Have started branch libraries.
- Have provided equipment for the manual training departments and home economics classes.
- Have secured kindergartens.

Ten new clubs have joined during the year. We have 101 parent-teacher associations and 25 mothers' clubs in membership and have paid to the national treasurer for 7,270 members.

MICHIGAN

Michigan Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations is trying its best to make the state a beautiful place for the children to live. We want all that is good, pure and

worthy of mention, to radiate from them. Owing to the fact that Michigan has the largest health sanitarium in the world, she has had the benefit of its teachings. Thanks to Dr. Kellogg, Calhoun County has had for several years a rural school health nurse with automobile service.

Many of our associations have pledged themselves to coöperate with city government to enforce state laws and city ordinances. One big thing a head of us is to see to it that all punchboards are destroyed.

We coöperate with Lansing state department of health in calling attention to the splendid expectant mother letters. Sixty mothers have registered to date. Many clubs are making layettes and fashioning useful garments for children in school.

Much is being done in the rural districts in organization. The crying need in our rural districts is a well-equipped dental truck.

In Battle Creek 1 cup of milk is being served by groups of club members to every grade school child, milk being served between the hours of 9:30 to 10:30 o'clock. Shower bath-tub equipment. Dental clinics have been established, Americanization work (splendid), assistance given in Y. W. C. A. girl reserve work, Red Cross social survey, juvenile work, health crusaders, back-to-school drives, school gardens, canning centers, urge better salaries for teachers, also consolidated school. We have been influential in making our school principals supervisors and having them relieved of teaching. Many clubs have bought liberty bonds and are holding them. A few clubs are supporting children in France. Child-welfare day was celebrated in Battle Creek, first week of March. Mrs. Schoff was with us and we had a very happy time. Charts such as are on display were placed in group in our leading stores—the merchants decorating accordingly. I would recommend that all states use these charts. We made a substantial gift in money for our national headquarters. At the recent state convention in Ann Arbor, Thursday, Friday, first week of May, action was taken to ascertain how best to regulate motion pictures.

Prior to the convention we issued our first yearbook. To establish classes in home training in our high schools, should be one of our aims.

Michigan was organized two years ago in Battle Creek. Membership was small. We have now over five thousand members.

"Be strong and work and I will be with you." If God be with us who can be against us. Just so surely as we, kindly insist upon obedience, self-control and self-confidence, just so surely are we making for better citizenship, for the hand that makes the cradle and the hand that rocks the cradle rule the world.

State teachers association has financed us to the extent of \$200.

MISSOURI

Missouri, although one of the more recent states to join the congress, now stands third from the top in membership, third in subscriptions to the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE and first in gifts to the national. In the past two years she has grown a hundred per cent. in membership, boasting the largest single parent-teacher association in the world. The Ashland School of Kansas City has 1,201 members and the Federation in that city more than 1,100 members. We have contributed in our state to every great world movement. One school boasts a tablet with the names of fallen soldiers and a tree planted in the memory of each of their sons who did not return.

We have established a child-welfare course in one of our high schools and uniform dress has been adopted by high-school girls, consisting of blue skirts and middies with low-heeled shoes and cotton hose. Through the Parent-Teacher Association a dean of women has been put into one high school. We have in St. Louis a scholarship fund providing the means of keeping pupils in schools who could not otherwise continue their education. A course of moral education with a paid lecturer was provided for parents. The Parent-Teacher Association has held there a night camp for mothers and babies during the heated term.

Missouri is the only state that boasts federal aid in weighing and measuring her children of pre-school age. In one county we have eight experts with child health centers, and nurses and doctors who follow up the work diligently with house to house visits of all children found to be under weight. It was through the coöperation of the Parent-Teacher Association with the Tuberculosis Society and Greene County Health Association that this was accomplished.

In southeast Missouri the Parent-Teacher Associations have established a home for teachers with a house mother to improve living conditions. We have aided in securing home demonstration agents, establishing nutrition clinics in the schools and aiding in all legislation for child betterment laws. Worked for and helped secure school bonds.

Our baby examination conducted by specialists was said by the United States Assistant Surgeon to be the most complete he had seen. School children all taking part by making health posters.

Springfield sent the speaker and one other woman to our state capitol to work for Children's Code laws, 25 of which were passed. In our new plans for the coming year we have as our state chairmen experts who will each contribute one program for local circles. The month before the program is to be presented each chairman will write to every circle full plans and details for the program, with pamphlets wherever possible, references and suggestive reading. In this way

those simple but comprehensive programs will be a definite thing and each circle and each council president will receive, besides four letters from the president, the direct communication with each department chairman.

Noting the activities that have been most helpful in different parts of the state we have established the following platform:

1. Since we feel that education for parenthood does not begin early enough, we recommend and urge that a course of child-welfare be included in the curriculum of every high school.

2. We urge the adoption of simple uniform dress in all high schools.

3. That we ask to have included in the normal schools a course in parent-teacher work to aid the rural teacher in leadership in our work.

4. That each Parent-Teacher Association circle supply a scale in every school not so provided to make the health crusade movement and nutrition clinics an integral part of their work.

5. That we foster the movement for a scholarship fund.

6. That we endorse, support, and actively work for equal school opportunities in every part of the state with salaries adequate to attract the best teachers.

7. That we lend our energies to the passage of the Sheppard-Towner, Capper Physical Training Bill, Unpassed Bills of the Children's Code. Coöperate with the Children's Bureau and Home Education Department.

8. That we stand back of the State Board of Health and advocate appropriations sufficient for carrying on the work of the Child Hygiene Department.

MONTANA

The past year has been decidedly the most prosperous in the history of the Montana branch. However, our prosperity has been of a kind which is difficult to translate into figures, and therefore represent properly in a report of this kind. It has taken the form of a general awakening along the lines in which this organization is most deeply interested. Many new organizations have been formed and old ones reorganized. Our mailing list has more than doubled in the year.

These organizations have been slow to affiliate with the state and national. This is due to several things. First, lack of knowledge of the work of the state and national organizations; second, the inability of the state organization to furnish adequate and timely help to the locals; third, the peculiar geographical features of the state, which do not tend to foster a close interdependence between the groups of people in different parts of the state. These hindrances are, however, being gradually overcome, and I am receiving letters almost daily from local organizations saying that they expect to join at the beginning of the next school year.

The state organization held a meeting last November at Helena, the state capital, in connection with the State Teachers' Association. While the delegation present was not large, it was very enthusiastic, and each individual brought something of real moment to the meeting. New officers were elected and the work in the state given a decided forward impetus.

We are working in full coöperation with the State Department of Education, the State Board of Health, and the State Health Association. The State Board of Health are so appreciative of the work we are carrying on that they put the services of Miss Marion L. Fox, secretary of the child welfare department, at our disposal as state organizer. This personal touch seems to have been the very thing lacking, and nearly all of the circles which she has helped in organizing, or has visited, have either affiliated with the state organization or signified their intention of doing so at the beginning of another year. Miss Fox is splendidly equipped for organization work, being trained first as a teacher and afterward in public health work. She has also had considerable experience in public speaking and other forms of public educational work. Her services are of inestimable value to our work in Montana. It should not be understood that Miss Fox is free to devote her entire time to parent-teacher association work; but as her regular duties call her about the state, she is at liberty to take whatever time she deems advisable to attend to our organization work. In this way the Congress has had no expense for her services.

At the November meeting it was voted to district the state and form district and county councils with the necessary officers. While this work is not nearly completed, it is going forward as rapidly as possible. We are also arranging for a state loan paper bureau, and already have some excellent material in course of preparation. We hope to have it ready for service at the beginning of the next school year. Child Welfare Day was celebrated in a very large number of our circles, with very gratifying results. We are arranging for department chairmen as fast as our condition seems to demand their organization. We have the fullest coöperation of the extension department of both the State University and the State Agricultural College, and in the main we have the support and encouragement of the local school officials.

The most crying need at present is printed material to help the local circles in their work. We especially need funds to defray the expense of printing and circulating such material. We would be much pleased to hear from any state officers who have revised practical plan for doing this line of work in their states.

NEW JERSEY

New Jersey has been active in forming Parent-Teacher Associations, total number at present being 261.

Our activities have been furthering hot lunches, back-to-the-school and stay-in-school drives, coöperating with State Department in promotion of child hygiene, social hygiene, the Women's Legislative Bureau at Trenton, and in weighing and measuring children.

Our state bulletin was issued every month except July and August.

We have compiled a list of better films.

Of the 23 counties in New Jersey 16 have county councils meeting at least twice each year.

We have associations in all counties save two, and these are arranging to organize in the fall.

Up to November we had gained 47 new associations and from November until June 35 new associations, making our total membership at present 9,674.

We are part of the New Jersey Council of Child Welfare, and New Jersey League of Women voters.

We have given \$5 to the New Jersey College for Women, which is affiliated with Rutgers College, New Brunswick, our State university, though it is not planned as other state universities are.

We expect to have more Parent-Teacher Associations next year and hope the wonderful work being done this year through our churches will bear fruit.

We have sent \$144.81 in Child Welfare Day gifts, \$15.17 for Endowment Fund, \$10 a gift—one sustaining member and \$32.84 to the National Headquarters.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

New Hampshire has 600 paid members. Six new Parent-Teacher Associations have been admitted as members. No extension work has been done except by correspondence.

We have departments for Child-Welfare Day, Americanization and Thrift.

Coöperation of State Department of Education and State University has been given.

We have supported the Thrift movement. Increase of teachers' salaries, Maternity and Infancy bill, Smith-Towner bill, Physical Education bill, Americanization and Health.

NEW YORK

We have a membership of 4,000, distributed among 235 clubs, which record does not include parent-teacher associations of New York City. While the call for organization in fresh localities has been great, much of our extension work has been in helping and stimulating associations that felt the effect of their intensive war work in a slackening of interest. We are preparing to carry on a systematic campaign in organization work and for increased membership.

The spring conferences in our eleven districts have proved potent factors in our extension work and more and more we are urging organization of these districts or of counties where the number of clubs warrents it. Thus far but two

counties have organized. In these conferences we find a wonderful opportunity to discover and train fresh material for our state executive.

We believe that the large measure of our success is due to the high-thinking, consecrated women who compose our executive board. They are women who realize the large need of this kind of work and who not only voice wonderful plans but are ready, eager, willing, and competent to carry out those plans. Through this executive board we are able to give to individual organizations a real interest in state and national Congress affairs and in this manner we are able to bring home to individual members the idea of the continuity and unity of purpose of local, state and national organizations.

The publication of a bulletin has been one of our biggest efforts of the year and we are very enthusiastic over the results already seen from its distribution we plan to make it available every club and every member.

Our standing committees conform to the national list as far as seems practical in our locality.

We never fail to respond to our loved Mrs. Mears' appeal for Child-Welfare Day and this year the response was over two hundred dollars.

Our president and others of our executive spoke before our Legislature on the measure for increase of teachers salaries and for the Lockwood Kindergarten bill. The former bill took precedence of the latter in consideration, consequently the Kindergarten bill was crowded out, but we feel confident that at the session of the legislature in the fall it will receive favorable action.

The publicity committee plan a poster contest in which all public school children of the state may have a part. Prizes of ten and five dollars have been offered for the two posters best depicting the idea of the coöperation of the home and school for the development of the child. We feel that in this way parent-teacher associations will be brought before new communities and the interest of many heretofore passive members of existing associations will be quickened. An exhibition of the posters will be given at the annual meeting in October and the awarding of prizes will be at that time.

A revision of our constitution and by-laws was made during the year and we were most generously helped in the compilation by our sister state organizations, to whom we would like to express our thanks.

Most happy are we to say that at our 1919 convention the Department of Education of our State gave us very definite recognition and has been working through our local clubs ever since. It has found our splendid organizations the most efficient channel through which to work for health education and Americanization.

In November at the invitation of the home economics department of Cornell University we held an executive meeting there and as a

result became linked up closely with that work. The department offered to us their home bureau secretaries for extension work which makes for us the logical opportunity in the rural communities for establishing the parent-teacher work. This gives us an excellent organizer in the counties which support the home bureaus.

The eldest daughter of the National Congress feels a great joy in the wonderful opportunities opened to her in the past year and a justifiable satisfaction in its measure of accomplishment.

NORTH CAROLINA

The North Carolina Branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations was organized in Charlotte, N. C., November 5, 1919. Delegates from all cities having Parent-Teacher Associations were present. Mrs. Schoff, our national president, gave us two or three days of her valuable time, and was a source of great aid and inspiration to the women present, and delighted every one with whom she came in contact. Through Mrs. Schoff's help and wise advice we began our state work with a much better conception of what can be accomplished through unity than we would have otherwise; while our membership has not grown as rapidly as we hoped, we have a very live state branch in North Carolina. Every woman in touch with the work is enthusiastic and anxious to see progress, and is doing her best to help in every way. Our state is divided into districts corresponding to our ten congressional districts.

We have nine vice-presidents, three of them being school superintendents. The only district in which we have no vice-president is one in which the work is not well known, and in the fall I expect to get that organized. Owing to our small membership at first it was difficult to find sufficient women who were not overburdened with work to accept the chairmanship of the departments, but now most of these places have been filled by women of splendid ability. Through the city councils and local associations support has been given to the following bills pending in Congress; the Maternity and Infancy bill, the Physical Education bill, and the Smith Towner Bill. All our associations are interested in higher salaries for teachers. In our state an increase of 15 and 20 percent. has been granted in teachers' salaries, and more is expected.

At our convention 13 or 14 towns were represented. We now have 27 local associations affiliated with the state branch, representing twelve of our best cities and towns with a membership of 1,725 approximately and two life members.

Our Child-Welfare Day program was either delayed or postponed indefinitely on account of the influenza epidemic, but most of the associations took an offering for the support of the national work. Charlotte had a very interesting

program arranged by Mrs. David Yates, our able chairman of the Child-Welfare Day Department.

In November I went to Raleigh during the Teachers' Assembly with a view to interesting the rural and city superintendents in Parent-Teacher Associations, also the governor and state superintendent. At the same time Mrs. Andrews, state president of Georgia, addressed the Assembly, telling of the work in Georgia and outlining exactly what Parent-Teacher Association work means to the child, school and home.

The first of May Miss Lida E. Gardner came to us to look over the field, and spent ten days in the state. During that time we spent two days at the Citizens' Educational Conference, meeting Dr. Brooks, state superintendent, who has given his loyal and enthusiastic support to the movement. Dr. Brooks will establish a bureau of Parent-Teacher Association in the State Educational Department. Miss Gardner was a great help and inspiration in outlining the work to be done in our state. We have caught a bigger vision of what the work may become. We are going to work to secure funds for a state organizer to begin work in the fall and we need Miss Gardner to help us put over a drive for 100,000 members. The time is ripe now for such a drive, as our whole state is waking up to the fact that better schools, higher salaries for teachers and better buildings are vital factors in training our future citizens. Though our work has been slow we feel that we have accomplished much, and this year we hope to do bigger things.

OHIO

Notable progress has been made in Ohio during the past year. There has been a remarkable advance in numbers, in things accomplished, and above all, in interest in the great work we have undertaken in the field of education and child and social welfare, a work we intend to carry on with even greater enthusiasm than ever before.

Ohio is divided into six districts, with a vice president and organizer for each.

Results testify to the efficiency of these, since we are happy to report 53 new parent-teacher associations in the past year, and a gain of 100 per cent. in our membership.

With a desire to promote interest in support of National work, a letter was sent to every parent-teacher association in Ohio, requesting and urging that Founders' Day be observed with appropriate program and a contribution of funds to the great work. The response to these letters is evidenced in the number of individual memberships, 2,224 joining the ranks since February 7, 1920, and we are assured of many more to follow.

New state officers were elected in October, 1919. Since that time three board meetings have been held, and endorsement made of the

Townsend Bill, regarding the National Highway Policy, the Thrift Movement, the Recruiting of Teachers and Increased Salaries, the Sheppard-Towner Bill, Physical Education Bill, Americanization, Public Health, Better Housing, Special Moving Picture Shows for Children, as well as many other phases of educational and civic welfare work.

In one district of our state, a school of mothercraft, or child study class (if you desire me to use that term), has been established, in which lectures on child nature and needs were given. With an earnest conviction that mothercraft is the big business of the present age, and that the world's most pressing need is good parenthood, the officers of this district, ably assisted by expert educators, devised and presented an educational program for mothers, a program of eight lectures, attended in the aggregate by 428 mothers. The infinite possibilities for good developing from such inspirational training cannot be overstated. The program will be continued this year, broadened and extended by twenty-four trained mothers, who have volunteered and pledged themselves to carry these lessons to the clubs, unable always to attend, and desiring the lessons brought to them.

We are striving to establish community centers in every school district, in the modern well-equipped up-to-date school, in the little red schoolhouse, too remote and oftentimes overlooked, with *good roads leading to every schoolhouse.*

We advocate teaching the mothers that while the teacher has the care of the child part of the time, the mother is responsible for approximately 82 waking hours of his time each week. We would point out to her the influences working upon the character; of her child of home, street, reading, recreations, companions, occupation, these influences to be made as beneficial and constructive as lies within the power of watchful motherhood.

Our work is so varied, our manifold activities so increasing, that surely it was to organized parenthood that the historian and prophet of long ago spoke when he said:

"Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thy habitations.

"Lengthen thy cords and strengthen thy stakes."

OREGON

At the last convention in Medford the name was changed from the Oregon Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations to the Oregon Parent-Teacher Association. We hope that the change will result in a larger number of the local associations affiliating with the state body.

Our big work is the maintaining of the Parents Educational Bureau in the courthouse at Portland where weekly baby clinics are held and where literature on all phases of child-welfare is distributed. We receive most of the literature

from the Children's Bureau at Washington, D. C.

We have coöperated with the school department in the enactment of some very progressive school legislation that puts Oregon in the front ranks of public schools. The Parent-Teachers have sponsored the Mothers Aid Law and the law that provides that all women and girls committed to our state institutions must be accompanied by a woman instead of a man attendant.

Oregon has just had a campaign that will provide an additional 1 and 26/100 mills for the support of our three educational institutions, The University, Agricultural College and the Normal College, and an additional two-mill levy for the support of the elementary schools.

The Parent-Teacher Associations were privileged to aid in the passage of these very meritorious measures, and the splendid majorities that were secured at the polls are in a large measure due to their active interest.

At present we are busy with the Parent-Teacher Days at the Chautauquas and the exhibits at the State and County Fairs, and are looking forward to a most helpful convention at Portland this October.

PENNSYLVANIA

The work of the Pennsylvania Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations has grown steadily during the past year to the great encouragement of the officers and executive board. Thirty-seven new parent-teacher associations have been organized and joined us, and quite a number more have been organized and will join. Later One mothers' club has been organized and one mothers' club in connection with a church. Our present membership is now 7,041, a gain of 42 per cent. over last year's membership. We have county councils in only two counties at present, Chester and Lycoming, but hope before our convention in November to have four more county councils organized. We had one district conference during the year, representing four counties. We hope in time to make these district conferences annual, as in our large state, long distances prevent satisfactory attendance at state conventions. Within a few years, we hope to have all of our counties organized also.

We have the following State Chairmen for National Departments: Child Hygiene, Dr. Anna Schrade, Erie, Pa.; Legislative, Miss Mary Garrett, Philadelphia, Magazine, Mrs. R. C. Roy, Pittsburgh; Juvenile Court, Mrs. Frederic Schoff; Membership, Mrs. Otis Deefer Williamsport, Pa.; Publicity, Mrs. H. C. Bristel, Greensburg, Pa.; Kindergarten, Miss Abie Parker, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Education, Mrs. Joseph Sferrell, Erie, Pa.; Parent-Teacher Organization, Mrs. O. D. Fainegan, Coatesville, Pa.; Child-Welfare Day, Mrs. E. L. Irwin; Home Economics and Country Life, Miss Pearl M.

McDonald, State College. The following departments are without chairmen: Loan Papers and Americanization, Somerset, Pa. The extension department of State College is giving us excellent coöperation in the rural districts and small towns of the state through its extension workers, who carry our literature and distribute it in unorganized territory to women leaders in these communities, urging them to organize parent-teacher associations, thus serving not only the Mothers' Congress, but also the extension department of state college, for our organizations make an excellent frum for their child-welfare exhibits, food demonstrations, Miss Pearl McDonald, head of the home economics department of State College, is a member of our State Board and chairman of our home economics and country life committees. We have offered our services to our new state superintendent of education, Dr. Thos E. Finegan, who has accepted the offer with gratitude, and will no doubt, find a place for us when his progressive policies have developed a little farther. The State Department of Education furnishes us with speakers, upon solicitation, for our conventions.

Twice a year we send out circular letters to local presidents, and always in one or both of them, some form of coöperation with the national is urged. Last September we made a special plea that contributions to National Headquarters Fund should be made, and up to date over \$500 has been raised for that purpose. Every local organization receives annually the Child-Welfare Day Program, but only a few of our organizations respond. We expect a different attitude to result from the adoption of a standard of excellence recently, which was included in our last circular letter, and one of whose items is a Child-Welfare Day program and a contribution of not less than five dollars to the national. Our parent-teacher associations took part in every form of war activities, Red Cross, Junior Red Cross, Liberty Loan and Thrift, and made splendid records of attainment. The United Service Club established at Philadelphia through the efforts chiefly of our national president, Mrs. Schoff, and which made tens of thousands of soldiers a safe and comfortable home during the war, is the greatest single piece of patriotic work attempted in Pennsylvania by our organization. Our Greenwood organizations deserve a great deal of credit too for the same kind of work done on a smaller scale for the army motor truck service along the Lincoln Highway.

Every local president was asked during the last session of the legislature, when the Higher Salaries Bill was before it and the public, to discuss the matter at their meetings and to pass resolutions favoring the best bill on the subject and forward them to our legislative chairman, Miss Garnett. We have secured letters and telegrams to Congressmen from

many of our strongest associations and from our board members, asking favorable action on the maternity and infancy bill, Smith-Towner Bill and Physical Education Bill. We are coöperating with State Health Agencies in holding Child Health Exhibits, and in organizing local health units according to the plan of our new State Health Commissioner, Dr. Martin, who wishes to have in every borough a child-welfare committee who will establish a child health center, an ordinance committee which will "put over" six model ordinances prepared by Dr. Martin, and a Health and Morals Committee which will help to stamp out all communicable diseases, including syphilis and gonorrhea. We hope this coming year to work for special classes for exceptional or erring children. Our kindergarten committee has just succeeded in securing from our State Superintendent of Education a promise to appoint a state supervisor of kindergartens, which will mean a new day for the kindergartens in our state. I consider this the most important single piece of work that we have done this year. We have now a new special committee, the better films committee, which is winning coöperation from a number of our parent-teacher associations which are awake to the enormous possibilities for good or evil of the moving picture show.

SOUTH DAKOTA

It affords me pleasure to offer for your consideration, my third annual report of the South Dakota Branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.

Throughout the entire state, the organization is recognized as a helpful attribute to progression in school and community welfare and the closing of the national official year shows an increase of membership of 440 during the year.

One county council was organized and one County Conference of parents and teachers was held.

A parent-teacher association section was organized as a part of the State Educational Association in 1918 and has continued active ever since, having held regular meetings and been recognized upon all programs. Last a splendid program was given and large and attentive audiences attended all of its sessions. This Section has arranged for a Child-Welfare Conference during the 1920 meeting of the State Educational Association, and invites the hearty support of the national organization in the work it has decided to offer as a part of the educational program.

The extension department of the State University has labored continuously to promote interests of the Parent-Teacher Association and has provided speakers for meetings and has responded to invitations to organize new associations.

Two personal letters have been sent to all organizations in the state asking contributions

for the fund for National Headquarters. South Dakota contributed to the National dues to the amount of \$39.50; was one of the twenty-two states that observed Child-Welfare Day with special program and a Birthday Anniversary offering of \$5.30. It was also one of seven states contributing to the Home Educational Division, the amount given being twenty-five dollars; and South Dakota was one of the five states contributing to the National Headquarters Fund, having given \$6.35 to that cause, with the total contributions to the national organization of \$76.20, an increase of more than 200 per cent.

By invitation from the state superintendent of public instruction, the South Dakota Branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Association, arranged to participate in the drive for better rural schools. The date fixed for the five different teams to start for a tour that would cover the entire state, touching every rural school in South Dakota, was October 25, 1919. Though the weather was beautiful when the start was made, within a few days strong winds and snow made roads tedious and before the week was out the storm had assumed such proportions that it was termed a blizzard and the workers were compelled to postpone the completion of their work until April 15, 1920.

Fate seemed to have a hand in delaying the progress in the membership drive of the Parent-Teacher Association in South Dakota. The snow which fell during the week following the starting of the second effort rendered automobile transportation impossible and forced abandonment of the previously postponed drive.

While we are pleased to think the growth in membership may be attributed to the preparation for the drive in a very large degree, the program as planned has not yet been completed.

Following the request of our national president, the South Dakota Branch authorized the appointment of a committee on legislation with duties including the solicitation of interest in the Child Welfare Commission. The President of the South Dakota Branch, was the only member of the committee reporting for duty at the capitol during the last Legislative session.

As a result of such activities the Child-Welfare Commission bill was enacted, legalizing the appointment of the South Dakota Child Welfare Commission. The personnel of this commission consists of five members, two women and three men. The state-president was appointed as a member of the commission and at the initial meeting of the commission she was elected director of the commission with duties assigned, including the direction of a survey of the state relative to all phases and conditions of child life within the state, as is comprehended by the provisions of the law providing for the Child-Welfare Commission.

Coöperating with the thrift movement the

state president of South Dakota was appointed chairman of the Ninth District, which includes five states of the Middle West, namely, Wyoming, North and South Dakota, Minnesota and Nebraska.

State chairmen have been appointed for all departments although some have not replied to their notice of appointment, hence can scarcely be regarded as a part of the working membership.

The proportionate gain in membership has been 125 per cent. during the year as expressed by the number paying dues to the state and national; South Dakota has the problem of a non-affiliated membership and organization and in this phase of the work information is not available. Present paid-up membership is 790.

VERMONT

The Eighth Annual Convention of the Vermont Branch of the National Congress Mother and Parent-Teacher Association was held in Procter, May 14-15, with 30 delegates present representing 14 associations.

Procter has the honor of having the largest association in the state and every session of the convention was well attended.

A wide variety of work has been undertaken ranging from clothing and Christmas baskets for needy families, instituting school lunches, playground apparatus, securing medical inspection in schools placing picture to buying school pianos.

Two associations have taken out memberships in the Vermont Children's Aid Society.

It was felt that local Associations should give more support to our national headquarters in Washington and it was voted that each Association send ten cents per member to the Headquarters for that purpose.

Among the subjects dealt with by our speakers were: Personality versus Teaching, Y. W. C. A. Summer Camps, Parent-Teacher Associations and Thrift, Junior Red Cross, Vermont Children's Aid Society.

It was voted to join the New England Council of State Branches of National Congress Mother and Parent-Teacher Associations.

In spite of the fact that a few associations have become inactive there has been a net gain of 17 members and our state now has a total membership of 1,038.

WISCONSIN

The Wisconsin Branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations reports a most satisfactory growth of the work and spread of interest among patrons and educators generally. A most loyal and coöperative spirit exists among officers and board members.

The financial standing of the State Branch has been much improved by the addition of new members, clubs in membership and by a benefit gift of \$30 from Kenosha Parent-Teacher

Associations, and a gift of \$387 from the Milwaukee associations. The increased cost of every thing necessary to the maintenance of our work has made these helps to our treasury genuinely appreciated.

The Wisconsin Branch has had a place in program of the State Teachers Association for four years. This year we shall have Professor McKeever, of the University of Kansas, as our speaker at the section.

Plans are being made for the ninth annual convention of the State Mothers Congress to be held in Milwaukee November 4-5, 1920, in connection with the State Teachers Association.

We now have 110 associations in membership, including eight Child-Welfare Circles and two Mothers Clubs. Twenty-five organizations have joined the Congress this year. Forty-eight associations have been organized this year of which thirty-one are the direct efforts of the State Branch.

The Congress has lent its aid in furthering health work, kindergartens, anti-tuberculosis campaigns, thrift work, americanization, and all phases of child welfare work throughout the state of Wisconsin.

Parent-Teacher Councils are unifying, the work and our big stress for 1920 will be to organize rural school Parent-Teacher Associations and from Councils wherever four or more Parent-Teacher organizations are working in one community.

Kenosha County reports almost every rural school having a Parent-Teacher association. Kenosha has ten active organizations and the county thirty. A county council was formed last November. It is planned to have two meetings a year with the city presidents having charge of one meeting, the rural presidents the other. Already two meetings have been held and the programs and general discussion have been most helpful. As far as the State Branch knows this is the only county council in the state and much credit for its splendid organization goes to Miss Frankie Stewart, county supervising teacher.

Most excellent personal help in furthering parent-teacher work has come from the state superintendent of education, C. P. Cary, and his staff of assistants, from the extension division of the University of Wisconsin and the State Health Department, from the state Federation of Womens Clubs and the Anti-Tuberculosis Association.

Child-Welfare Day was observed in some parts of Wisconsin and gifts amounting to \$58 were sent in for the National Congress of Mothers. Twenty-five subscriptions have been received for CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE.

We are issuing our first bulletin this month. We hope to issue several bulletins a year.

Through our various committees and more adequate finances we hope to be more helpful

to associations over the state, so that finally we shall become the power for good in *all* parts of the state we are in *parts* of it at present.

WASHINGTON STATE

The kindergarten is well under way with the children under competent instruction. Mothers whose children are attending are enthusiastic. We trust the kindergarten has come to stay in Olympia. It only took serious effort to secure it. You can do the same in your town.

BELLINGHAM

Bellingham is the first city to be able to report 100 per cent. Parent-Teacher Association.

A splendid council organization has been perfected and the interest shown is notable.

Six standing committees were selected. The executive committee will have supervision over the affairs of the council; the educational committee will investigate educational conditions in the home and schools; the social and amusement committee will endeavor to raise the standards of amusements and general social life of the community; a civic or art committee, whose duties shall be to create right ideas of art in the home, school and in public buildings, and to endeavor to improve the appearance of the city streets generally; the publicity committee will enlist the coöperation of the press in creating a sentiment for the moral and social betterment of the city; the moral and hygiene committee will keep in touch with the moral and sanitary conditions, devising ways and means of improvement. Similar committees have been appointed in the eleven circles of the city, the council committees really acting as supervising agencies over circle work. In this way the work is uniform and systematic and far-reaching.

An added interest and coöperation is noted among the teachers, and the parent-teacher movement is attracting the best people of the community. The need for more humane education is felt and the superintendent of schools will endeavor to have this study added to the school curriculum.

Parent-Teacher headquarters have been established at the Chamber of Commerce, and the educational chairman from the Council of Parent-Teacher Associations is classifying clippings and pamphlets, for distribution.

It is the aim of Whatcom County to organize a parent-teacher association in every school before the close of the year. Some circles are taking the responsibility of hot lunches for the children, serving a cup of cocoa or a bowl of soup to each child who carries his lunch. Donation parties have been a very successful method of obtaining dishes and supplies. Others have assisted in the organization of community fairs, raising the money for prizes by charging admission and by selling refreshments.

The Parent-Teacher Associations assisted in a number of schools with special programs, such

as Roosevelt Day and Armistice Day; they also helped to secure lectures.

Basket socials seem to be a regular standby when it comes to raising a considerable amount of money. Whitehorn, a small one-room school, raised \$60.00 in one evening by this method; Aldergrove, a two-room school, raised \$178 for a piano. At Northwood, a basket social was given for the relief of a number of families who lost all in a forest fire, and a generous amount was raised. Marietta gave a salmon bake and finished paying for their piano.

It is expected that a County Division will be organized in Whatcom County in the near future. The county superintendent of schools is most enthusiastic, and is doing all possible to promote Parent-Teacher Association extension.

When 2,906 divorce suits were begun in the Philadelphia courts last year, an increase of 1,108 cases over the high record of the previous year, officials began to wonder why.

Eight years ago, in 1912, there were only 883 applicants for divorce in this county. Each year the number has increased.

In last year's high record the average was 242 cases a month, but in January of this year 346 cases were begun, a record which, if it is sustained, will put this year's total in excess of last year by 1,246 cases. If this increase should continue by the year 1950 there will be 40,000 divorce cases a year in Philadelphia courts.

Divorce figures bring up another interesting situation. They show more divorced people are being married a second time than formerly was the custom. In 1912 only forty-eight per cent. of the people granted divorces married again. Last year the figure was sixty per cent.

The Mary Lyon Parent-Teacher Association of Tacoma is one of the smaller circles. Until last year the school comprised but one room, for the first three grades only. A new four-room tile building now takes its place. The circle has replaced the old school organ with a piano and, in many other ways added to the comforts of the building.

The association began work this year by getting acquainted with the new teachers and giving them a friendly welcome. Program for the year:

October—Neighborhood Gossip.

November—Friends and Foes of the Home, *i.e.*, Movies, Careless and Delinquent Parents and Commercialism.

December—That Boy of Yours.

January—Our Girls.

February—Patriotic Program.

March—Teacher, Mother and Child.

April—Program in charge of the many Scandinavian members.

May—Physical Welfare of our Children.

This circle has voted to subscribe to a fund for traveling expenses of the state officers and is preparing an entertainment to secure necessary money. A School Fair is an annual event.

Child-Welfare Notes

Fifteen Years Longer

The famous surgeon, Dr. William Mayo, of Rochester, Minn., estimates that since the Civil War the progress of surgery and medicine have added fifteen years to the average life; and now, he says, prohibition will add fifteen years more! He deplored the increase in smoking both by men and women, declaring that it has already caused an increase in cancer. If we want to hold our fifteen years' gain, we shall need to wage warfare against King Nicotine.

Fifteen years! Multiply that by the hundred million people in the United States, and you have an aggregate gain of one billion, five hundred million years for every generation. How much may be done in that vast stretch of time! How far the world should forge ahead because of prohibition!

"Prohibition won't prohibit" death, of course; but it will put it off a decade and a half.

The Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor puts out a bulletin, "Rural Child Welfare, Number 2." It is a study of rural children in selected counties of North Carolina, made by Bradley and Williamson in connection with the State Board of Health, the local health authorities, and volunteer organizations. The report includes the story of children's health conferences, a survey of conditions surrounding children in the lowland counties of the State, the conditions surrounding children in the highlands or mountainous countries, a summary of the report with conclusions, a discussion of the State in its relation to child welfare. The bulletin may probably be had by writing to the Children's Bureau, Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

Let me inform the theological seminaries that there are children in the world, and the primacy of religious education will supplant the primacy of preaching.

The church is in nothing so out of date as in emphasizing work for adults above that for children.

Educational evangelism of children is more important than evangelistical work for adults.

Theological schools continue to turn out preachers who are not expert in the religious education of the young.

RICHARD MORSE HODGE

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

CANADA

The Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations held its annual convention Easter week in Toronto. There is much interest in starting a lunch room in the high school for the

purpose of supplying hot drinks to about 150 pupils.

The associations in Canada are using the loan papers on child nurture provided by the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. It is gratifying to know that British Columbia is making great progress in organization of parents and teachers and they are planning to have a British Columbia Federation in the fall.

Teaching Unpopular in Canada

It used to be true that the very best and most able women in Canada were to be found amongst the school teachers. It is becoming less true every day. Our universities and high schools are turning out swarms of young women, enthusiastic, energetic, capable, and keen to devote themselves to what they call social service, but in spite of the fact—the very evident fact—that they could contribute no greater social service than that of teaching and training the nation's children, they are not becoming teachers. Of course one reason for the unpopularity of teaching is the fact that it is "not exciting" as the girls say, not unusual enough. These young enthusiasts have been listening to public speakers who have told them that all walks of life are now open to women, that women may be lawyers, doctors, farmers, public speakers, architects, settlement workers, bankers, organizers, chemists, advertisement writers, journalists, anchors, explorers, aeronauts. All this makes teaching seem flat, stale and unprofitable—especially unprofitable. But these wild dream of exploring the Andes or the North Pole in an aeroplane usually die away with the glamor of graduation day, and if conditions in Ontario schools were what they should be, a large proportion of these young women would soon be teachers. If conditions in the schools were right, our schools would soon be one of the chief instruments by which this desire to be useful, this real patriotism, could be carried out in practice.

Fathercraft is the latest addition to the things a young man of the twentieth century should know. Too much attention is being paid to the mother's influence, say our educationalists of to-day, while the father is allowed to get the idea that it doesn't matter much what he does, as his influence is negligible. Well, our Jewish friends have always taught the equal responsibility of father and mother, and they are justly proud of the very small percentage of their children and young people who go astray, or who are born defective. By all means let us put Fathercraft among the "things a fellow should know."

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Every child has a God-given right to a happy home, which shall furnish the best conditions for normal, helpful growth. It has been well said that "Criminals come out of homes that are, in many respects, real homes, but have in them certain conditions which aid in releasing the evil that is in the child's nature, and in suffocating or starving the good." It is one thing to teach positive virtues and the avoidance of vices; it is quite another thing to provide a fostering atmosphere which shall reinforce that teaching. . . . Our children need more of the parents' interest and coöperation in their little plans, pleasures and aims. We endeavor to surround them with every physical comfort possible, yet there is the need of the heart, a craving for more companionship of father and mother. It is not what we do for our children that makes them love us, but it is what we do with them. "Every bit of coöperation, whether in work or play, is a tie that binds."—MRS. DAVID O. MEARS.

Appeal for Child-Welfare

By MISS BESSIE LOCKE

National Chairman on Kindergarten Extension of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.

Many years ago Abraham Lincoln said "We find ourselves in the peaceful possession of the fairest portion of the earth as regards extent of territory, fertility of soil, and salubrity of climate. We find ourselves under the government of a system of political institutions conducting more essentially to the needs of civil and religious liberty than any of which the history of former times tells us. We, when mounting the stage of existence, found ourselves the legal inheritors of these fundamental blessings—'tis ours to transmit them."

"At what point shall we expect the approach of danger? By what means shall we fortify against it? I answer, if it every reach us it must spring up amongst us; it cannot come from abroad. If destruction be our lot, we must ourselves be its author and finisher. As a nation of freemen we must live through all time or die by suicide."

We are today in grave danger of moral and spiritual suicide. Our material wealth has increased beyond the most sanguine expectations of our ancestors, but our spiritual growth has not kept pace with this progress. As evidence of this we learn that last year \$45,000,000 worth of property was stolen in transportation and that it cost \$200,000,000 to maintain our penal institutions.

President Lincoln said, "If destruction be our lot, we must ourselves be its author." We now have in our midst the elements of self-destruction in the vicious motion pictures that are shown daily to literally millions of our children, sowing seeds of evil that will produce the fruits of crime, in years to come, for "As a man soweth, so shall he also reap." It is said that already 25 per cent. of the young men who are arrested attribute their crimes to motion pictures that they have seen.

In many communities the citizens have been aroused to great indignation over this question, but their efforts to improve matters have proved to be fruitless. It is to help such communities to combat this great national menace that the National Motion Picture League was organized.

For six years representatives of the League

have examined all the films that have been produced, and lists of those that were found to be unobjectionable have been issued.

Local branches of the League have been formed, and are conducting matinees where only films endorsed by the League are shown. It has been found that local motion-picture theaters are willing to coöperate with this work when they have been properly approachd. Mrs. Woodard, the president of the league has been appointed chairman on better motion pictures of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations and it is confidently expected that great good will come from the combined efforts of this organization and the large number of school officials and ministers who recognize the dangers lurking in this rapidly extending evil, and desire to have a part in combating it.

In closing permit me, as National Chairman on Kindergarten Extension, to speak of the splendid work for the Kindergarten that has been done by the Congress of Mothers during the past year. It secured a splendid Kindergarten Law in Arizona—which provides for classes upon petition of parents, and in many other states new Kindergartens are being opened through its efforts.

There are still more than 3,000,000 children in our country for whom classes have not yet been established. In view of the great Americanization problem with which our country has to deal, our efforts should be redoubled, for the Kindergarten is a most effective Americanizing agency, and its general extension will do much to bring about a better understanding of our customs and ideals among the aliens in our midst. To quote from Commissioner Claxton, "The Kindergarten is a vital factor in American education. It ought to become a part of the public school system in every city, town and village in the county."

Let us unite our efforts to secure for the action's children this educational advantage which only one in eight is now enjoying, but which all are clearly entitled to receive.

National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations

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